

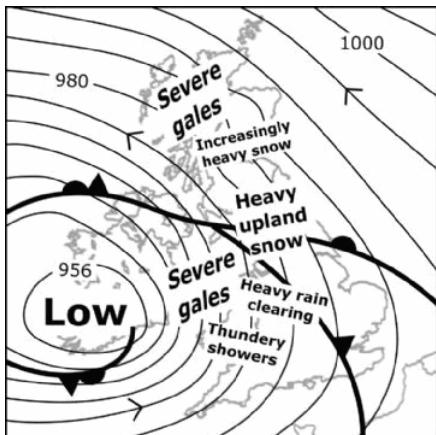
Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Cairngorms National Park and Monadhliath. Also includes the Ben Alder area hills between Loch Ericht and Loch Laggan.



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General Summary for Tuesday, 27 January, 2026



British Mountain Summary:

Based on forecast chart for noon 27 January, 2026

Severe conditions - storm-force winds on mountains, damaging gusts to some lower terrain. Extensive hill snow for N England & S Scotland, snow setting in heavier with time for southern Highlands; blizzard conditions widely, rain only lower slopes. Showery bursts follow in Wales with risk of hail and thunder.

Headline for Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath

Severe gales. Snow increasingly setting in south; whiteout.

Detailed Forecast for Tuesday, 27 January, 2026

How windy? (On the Munros)	East-southeasterly 50 to 70mph; speeds may reach up to 80mph higher Cairngorms, powerful gusts downslope.
Effect of wind on you?	Widely difficult conditions - stability and mobility likely only achieved with crouching/crawling. Severe wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	Snow, increasingly heavier, particularly in south Persistent snow over the Cairngorm plateau, towards Drumochter and Deeside, heavier falls set in with time, sustained into afternoon. Smaller amounts reaching west of Strathspey, though persistent snow falling more widely afternoon; sleet or rain below 300-400m.
Cloud on the hills?	High terrain shrouded, lower south Shrouding the Cairngorm plateau all days, lowest bases towards Deeside which may reach lower slopes during heavier snowfalls. Best of cloud breaks over Drumochter and Monadhliath, up to 800-900m.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Mostly cloudy, though brighter around Strathspey/Monadhliath in morning where visibility good, though a general haze. Whiteout conditions in blowing snow over much higher terrain, to some mid-elevations in south.
How Cold? (at 900m)	-3C. Feeling like -18 to -23C in strongest wind.
Freezing Level	300-400m, locally above 600-700m some slopes toward N/W of Cairngorms; starting to rise variably into evening-night to 800m.

Cairngorms NP and Monadhliath - Looking Ahead

	Wednesday 28 January	Thursday 29 January
How windy? (On the Munros)	Southeasterly 25 to 40mph, risk 50mph at times higher Cairngorms, gusty in places near northern corries.	East to southeasterly 35 to 40mph, to 50mph on higher Cairngorms, gusty in places west of higher tops.
Effect of wind on you?	Affecting comfortable walking, some buffeting gusts in places. Considerable wind chill.	Challenging walking on exposed higher terrain, buffeting gusts locally lower down. Significant wind chill.
How wet? (Precipitation and its impact)	A little snow / rain Snow flurries mostly east, amounts small, rain or sleet up to 700m; patchier or perhaps very little toward Strathspey.	Snow flurries Snow on and off, mostly light, most frequent south and eastern areas, sleet lower slopes. Rare flurries Monadhliath.
Cloud on the hills?	Extensive, lowest south Shrouding much high terrain all day, to some mid-slopes Deeside to Glen Garry. Breaks to some tops Monadhliath.	Fairly extensive Shrouding higher slopes widely, but often from mid-heights up in east. Higher bases and some breaks westwards near A9.
Chance of cloud free Munros?	20%	20%
Sunshine? Air clarity (below cloud)	Overcast and dull. Whiteout if in cloud over snow cover; visibility good below cloud in north.	Rare if any weak sun, mainly Strathspey. Hazy, poor visibility in snow and difficult navigation on hills if in fog over snow cover.
How Cold? (at 900m)	0C. Wind chill feeling like -8 to -12C.	-2C. Wind chill feeling like -15 to -18C over higher terrain.
Freezing Level	800 to 900m, locally just above freezing on some higher slopes toward Strathspey.	600 to 700m.

Planning Outlook**All mountain areas of Britain from Wednesday, 28 January, 2026**

Strong east or southeasterly winds likely to prevail onward into early February. Scottish mountains are expected stay below freezing in the extended range, fresh heavy snowfalls giving substantial depths and drifts across south and eastern areas, much less snow northwestward. Hills in England and Wales will see varying freezing levels, sub-zero for periods to 600m or lower, but intermittently lifting just above the tops - a mix of rain and upland snowfall. A generally unsettled pattern with Atlantic lows continuing to frequently circulate over Britain on a southerly track, whilst high pressure resides away to the north.

Forecast issued at 16:20 on Monday, 26 January, 2026

The production of the Scottish forecasts is fully funded by the Scottish Government through Mountaineering Scotland with the support of sportscotland. Forecasts are issued daily by 16:30 and are kept under review and amended as necessary. However, expected conditions can still change after issue. © Copyright Mountain Weather Information Service, 2026.